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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 23, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 18 totaled an estimated 17.6 billion ton-miles, 1.5 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 42 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 711.8 billion ton-miles, virtually the same as the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 18 totaled 392,320, down 0.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 1.0 percent higher than the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 4.5 percent in the West, and down 1.3 percent in the East, and 7.8 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 17 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 8,640 cars (34.3 percent). Twelve of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 11 totaled 104,929 trailers and/or containers, 7.2 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 41 weeks of the year was 3,905,154 trailers and/or containers, up 8.9 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/18/86

| | Loadings in Week ended October 18, 1986 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1985 | | | Change fro Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Per |
| Grain | 33,813 | I | 8,640 | 34.3 | I | 3,526 | 11. |
| Other farm products | 4,910 | I | 702 | 16.7 | I | 255 | 5. |
| Metallic ores | 13,526 | D | 519 | 3.7 | D | 2,878 | 17. |
| Coal | 113,945 | D | 2,334 | 2.0 | I | 5,117 | 4. |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 14,287 | D | 30 | 0.2 | I | 16 | 0. |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 8,545 | D | 3,221 | 27.4 | I | 272 | 3. |
| Grain mill products | 10,809 | D | 171 | 1.6 | D | 576 | 5. |
| Food and kindred products | 10,819 | D | 572 | 5.0 | D | 482 | 4. |
| Primary forest products | 9,927 | D | 1,371 | 12.1 | D | 356 | 3. |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 7,606 | I | 587 | 8.4 | I | 76 | 1.0 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 11,708 | D | 1,671 | 12.5 | D | 644 | 5.2 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 22,239 | D | 1,652 | 6.9 | D | 379 | 1.7 |
| Petroleum products | 4,655 | D | 35 | 0.7 | D | 193 | 4.0 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 10,422 | D | 281 | 2.6 | I | 69 | 0.7 |
| Coke | 4,011 | D | 778 | 16.2 | I | 179 | 4.7 |
| Metals and products | 7,561 | D | 34 | 0.4 | I | 270 | 3.7 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 19,741 | D | 2,318 | 10.5 | I | 218 | 1.1 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 7,666 | D | 1,101 | 12.6 | I | 1 | 0.0 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 3,287 | D | 3,223 | 49.5 | D | 88 | 2.6 |
| All other carloads | 72,695 | I | 7,909 | 12.2 | D | 711 | 1.0 |
| LCL traffic | 148 | D | 14 | 8.6 | I | 27 | 22.3 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 392,320 | D | 1,487 | 0.4 | I | 3,719 | 1.0 |
| Corresponding week of 1985 | 393,807 | | | | | | |

| | 1986 | 1985 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (42 weeks) | 15,728,756 | 15,839,030 | D 0.7 |
| Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| 41 Weeks ended October 11 | 694.2 | 694.3 | D 0.0 |
| Week ended October 18 | 17.6 | 17.3 | I 1.5 |
| 42 Weeks cumulative | 711.8 | 711.6 | I 0.0* |

* Difference is less than 0.01 percent

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